

VT0328-US1

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner subjected claims 1-37 to a restriction requirement. The Examiner stated that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-29 and 33, drawn to an electrolytic coating method, classified in class 205, subclass 317; and
- II. Claims 30-32 and 34-37, drawn to an electrode, classified in class 204, subclass 290.11.

The Examiner required Applicant under 35 U.S.C. §121 to restrict the application to one of the above inventions.

Applicant has elected Species I for prosecution on the merits, without traverse and has accordingly withdrawn claims 30-32 and 34-37.

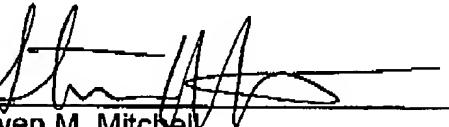
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Applicant believes that the above remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action dated January 31, 2006. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Steven M. Mitchell at (408) 522-6101.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.138(a)(3), Applicant hereby requests and authorizes the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 22-0265.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2/13/06

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